



## VETERANS SERVICES DIVISION

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### Fact Sheet

### Homeless Veteran Program

#### California Department of Veterans Affairs

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Governor

Peter Gravett  
Secretary

Ted Puntillo  
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Veterans Services

Barbara Ward  
Deputy Secretary  
Women and Minority  
Veterans

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Deputy Secretary  
External Affairs

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Coordinator

Customer Call Center  
1.800.952.5626  
Website: [www.cdva.ca.gov](http://www.cdva.ca.gov)

- The California Department of Veterans Affairs (CDVA) is the State's point of contact for government agencies and community-based organizations for matters pertaining to homeless veterans. The CDVA staff communicates information, conducts outreach, and assists nonprofit community-based organizations assist homeless veterans. Generates public awareness of the issue of homeless veterans and provides resource referrals to homeless veterans. Furthermore, with the creation of the nine Regional Collaborative Coordinators (RCC's) throughout California, VSD is diligently working to locate local programs which provide services to veterans specific to their region, continuously expanding the list of resources available to veterans
- Of the estimated 107,000 homeless veterans nationwide, an estimated 23,275\* reside in California (21.75% of the national homeless veterans population).
- According to recent studies, unlike their Vietnam counterparts, whose circumstances caused them to fall into homelessness within 13 years, OIF/OEF Veterans find themselves in a downward spiral towards homelessness within 3 years
- Annually, the CDVA makes discretionary funds available through grants for Stand Down events to provide services such as medical, dental and vision screenings; State, USDVA, Unemployment and Social Security benefits; California ID cards, legal services from the Homeless Courts system, counseling and clothing. To view the 2010 Stand Down Schedule, visit: <http://www.cdva.ca.gov/Resources/StandDown.aspx>.
- Through a cooperative partnership, The Department of Housing and Urban Development and the Department of Veterans Affairs Supported Housing (HUD-VASH) Program, provides long-term case management, supportive services and permanent housing support.. To be eligible for this program, Veterans must be VA Health Care eligible, homeless, and must participate in case management services in order to obtain and sustain permanent independent community housing.
- For a county list of community-based organizations or government agencies that may provide assistance to homeless Veterans, visit:  
<http://www.cdva.ca.gov/Resources/HomelessHelping.aspx>
- The Department of Veterans Affairs' (VA) has also founded a National Call Center for Homeless Veterans, to ensure homeless Veterans or Veterans at-risk for homelessness have free, 24/7 access to trained counselors. To be connected with a trained VA staff member call 1-877-4AID VET (877-424-3838).
- NETWORK OF CARE: Network of Care for Service Members, Veterans & their families is a one-stop shop for virtually all services, information, support, advocacy, and much more. For more information visit:  
<http://networkofcare.org/index2.cfm?productid=17&stateid=6networkofcare.org/veterans.cfm>

\* Source: Homelessness Research Institute Report using 2006 CHALENG data from the USDVA located at <http://www.endhomelessness.org/content/article/detail/1837>